

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of February 28, 2005 is gratefully acknowledged.

The objection to claims 8 and 15 is noted. Both claims have been amended to change "hand" to "head". This amendment overcomes the noted objection.

The rejection of claims 8 - 10 and 12 as anticipated by McHugh under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), the rejection of claims 8, 13 and 14 as anticipated by Chang under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), the rejection of claim 15 as anticipated by Takada et al. under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), and the rejection of claim 11 as unpatentable over McHugh in view of Takamori et al. under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are noted and respectfully traversed.

The subject matter of claim 12 has been added to claim 8 and claim 15, and claim 12 cancelled. While the combination of claims 8 and 12 (claim 8 as now amended) has been rejected, applicant believes that as now rendered, claims 8 and 15 patentably distinguish over McHugh.

McHugh does not disclose: 1) an arm supporting effect for blocking inward deflection of foremost end portions 3a', 3b' of the right and left arms 3a, 3b on a pair of receiving pieces disposed on a foremost tip portion of the frame, and 2) an effect of forming a card insertion space formed by a sheet metal frame which cooperates with the connector body having arms, and a lateral width of an insertion slot of the card insertion space which can prevent impairment of the operability of card insertion as well as avoid a situation of disabling a card to be inserted.

According to the present invention, when the card C is inserted as indicated by the arrow A in Fig. 1, the lateral edges of the card C are restricted by the left and right receiving pieces 55a, 55b as well as the guide faces 35a, 35b; and the lateral width W of the insertion slot is maintained to an adequate dimension by the left and right receiving pieces 55a, 55b. As a result, the card C can be inserted smoothly and in a proper posture. Even when a prying force is applied to the card C during a process of manually inserting the card C, the prying force is felt not only by the left and right arms 3a, 3b, but also by the receiving pieces 55a, 55b and the plate-like pieces 52a, 52b. Even if the arms 3a, 3b are so thin and narrow that the arms 3a, 3b do not have great

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strength, the arms 3a, 3b will still not be deformed or broken.

The insertion of the arm support means 55a, 55b in claims 8 and 15 should place them in condition for allowance.

Entry of the present amendments to the claims are respectfully requested. No new issues are raised as the amendment merely combines existing claims.

On reconsideration, it is respectfully submitted that claims 8-11 and 13-15 should be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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